

MARSH-BILLINGS-ROCKEFELLER  
NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK  
Woodstock Vt 05091

# Carriage Barn Stewardship Exhibit

Final Texts for  
Main Exhibit Panels and Timeline

with  
HFC Graphics List, Revised

July 14, 1999



## Timeline: All Entries

### L-05-001 Timeline Ribbons

George Perkins Marsh: 1801 to 1882

Frederick Billings: 1823 to 1890

Julia Billings & Children: 1837-1951 (Reminder: in this ribbon, mark Julia's death in 1914)

Mary French Rockefeller: 1910—1997

Laurance S. Rockefeller: 1910 —

### L-05-002 Timeline Text 1817

U.S. Navy is authorized to establish forest reserves to protect hardwoods for building its ships.

### L-05-003 Timeline Text 1832

Artist George Catlin proposes a "nation's park" after visiting the West and observing Native American tribal cultures.

### L-05-004 Timeline Text 1836

Transcendentalist Ralph Waldo Emerson's *Nature* is published, which articulates his belief that God's work is visible through nature.

### L-05-005 Timeline Text

Landscape artist Thomas Cole paints *The Oxbow*, depicting an ideal balance between nature and human civilization.

### G-05- Image of Cole's *The Oxbow*

### L-05-007 Timeline Text 1848

Women's Rights Convention, Seneca Falls, New York.

The early conservation movement had roots in the intense intellectual ferment of this period, which also spurred action for women's suffrage and abolitionism.

### L-05-008 Timeline Text 1849

✓ U.S. Department of the Interior established.

### G-05-009 Image of DOI buffalo logo

L-05-010      Timeline Text 1850

Quotation

*The waste of valuable timber in the United States...will hardly begin to be appreciated until our population reaches fifty millions. Then the folly and shortsightedness of this age will meet with a degree of censure and reproach not pleasant to contemplate.*

L-05-012      Citation      Thomas Ewbank, U.S. Commissioner of Patents

L-05-013      Timeline Text 1854

Henry David Thoreau's *Walden; or, Life in the Woods* is published.

L-05-014      Quotation

*I went to the woods because I wished to live deliberately, to front only the essential facts of life, and see if I could not learn what it had to teach, and not, when I came to die, discover that I had not lived.*

L-05-015      Citation      Henry David Thoreau, *Walden*

A-05-016      Book *Walden*, early edition {Display closed.}

L-05-017      Timeline Text 1855

Quotation

*This we know: the earth does not belong to man: man belongs to the earth...All things are connected like the blood which unites one family...Whatever befalls the earth, befalls the sons of the earth. Man did not weave the web of life: he is merely a strand in it. Whatever he does to the web, he does to himself.*

L-05-018      Citation      Seattle (Seathl), patriarch of the Duwamish and Squamish Indians of Puget Sound

L-05-019      Timeline Text 1858

Albert Bierstadt first visits the Rocky Mountains and begins a career of painting grand images of western scenery, including this image of Cathedral Rocks, Yosemite Valley (1870) from the Billings family collection.

G-05-020      Image of Bierstadt's "Cathedral Rocks"

L-05-021      Timeline Text

Mt. Vernon Ladies Association acquires 200 acres of George Washington's estate. This is one of the first acts of private historic preservation in the United States.



L-05-022      Timeline Text 1859

Scientific farmer and landscape designer Robert Morris Copeland publishes *Country Life: A Handbook of Agriculture, Horticulture, and Landscape Gardening*, an 800-page guide with practical and aesthetic suggestions. Frederick Billings owned a copy of *Country Life*, and hired Copeland in 1869 to design the landscape of his Woodstock estate.

L-05-023      Timeline Text 1860

Eighty percent of the population of the United States lives in rural areas.

L-05-024      Timeline Text 1863

Central Park in New York City, designed by renowned landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted, is completed. The Park is a milestone in the development of the American parks movement.

G-05-25      Image of Central Park in 1863 {Lithograph, bird's-eye view}

L-05-026      Timeline Text 1864

George Perkins Marsh's *Man and Nature* is published.

A-05-027      Book *Man and Nature*, early edition {Display open, with title page showing.}

L-10- Timeline Text 1864

John Wesley Powell leads the first expedition down the Colorado River. In 1878, after several more expeditions in the Colorado River basin, Powell submits his landmark "Report on the Lands of the Arid Regions of the United States." His visionary plan calls for settlement and development of the West in a manner that respects the region's environmental limitations.

G-10- Image from Powell expedition

L-10- Timeline Text 1865

Congress passes the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, abolishing slavery.

L-10- Timeline Text 1872

Inspired by William Henry Jackson's photographs and Thomas Moran's paintings, Congress sets aside Yellowstone as the nation's -- and the world's -- first national park. Jackson's and Moran's work was funded by the Northern Pacific Railroad, which Frederick Billings helped to manage.

G-10- Image of Moran's "Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone" (1872)

L-10- Timeline Text

Tree-Planting Day is first observed in Nebraska. Soon known as Arbor Day, this tradition is widely observed across the country, particularly in schools.

L-10- Timeline Text 1874

William Cullen Bryant's *Picturesque America* is published. The book's full-page engravings of some of the country's most celebrated scenery stimulate popular interest in the natural landscape, and foster increased tourism.

L-10- Timeline Text 1876

The Appalachian Mountain Club is founded in Boston, Massachusetts. Working to protect the mountains, rivers and trails of the northeastern United States, it is now the nation's oldest conservation and outdoor recreation organization.

L-10- Quotation

*I don't believe Mother Earth, if properly treated will ever refuse to remunerate the husbandman for his labor.... Nature sometimes forces her lessons with great severity, compelling man to endure hard penalties for his improvidence.*

L-10- Citation Unidentified Maine farmer

L-10- Timeline Text 1885

New York State creates large Forest Preserves in the Adirondack and Catskill Mountains, and opens Niagara Falls State Reservation, the first state park in the eastern United States.



L-10- Timeline Text late 1880s

Dr. Seward Webb and his wife Lila Vanderbilt Webb acquire nearly 4,000 acres of farmland along the shore of Lake Champlain in Shelburne, Vermont, and create a model agricultural estate, **Shelburne Farms**. The property continues today as a working farm and as a nonprofit environmental education center that links agriculture, forestry, land conservation, historic preservation, education, and tourism.

G-10- Image of Shelburne Farms from the late 1800s

L-10- Timeline Text 1890

L-10- Quotation

*As Boston's lovers of art united to found the Art Museum, so her lovers of nature should now rally to preserve for themselves and all the people as many as possible of the scenes of natural beauty which, by great good fortune, still exist near their doors.*

L-10- Citation Charles Elliot, *Garden and Forest* magazine

L-10- Timeline Text

Landscape architect Charles Elliott advocates creating a private organization to permanently protect scenic treasures of the northeastern United States. Two years later the world's first land trust, the Trustees of Public Reservations (today the Trustees of Reservations), is formed in Massachusetts.

L-10- Timeline Text 1890s

Influenced by ideas and practices introduced from Germany, the forestry movement in the United States begins to promote scientific and "efficient" forest management.

L-10-018 Timeline Text 1891

✓ Congress passes the Forest Reserve Act, granting the President the power to establish forest reserves. The same year, President Benjamin Harrison sets aside land in Wyoming to form the nation's first forest reserve. In 1907, forest reserves are renamed "National Forests".

L-10- Timeline Text 1892

John Muir founds the Sierra Club, dedicated to preserving wilderness.

L-10- Timeline Text

New York State establishes the Adirondack Park, encompassing state lands in the Adirondack Forest Preserve and large areas of private land. The Adirondack Park, which today includes more than 6 million acres, is the largest park in the contiguous 48 states. In 1894, New York State amends its constitution, declaring that state forest lands in the Adirondack and Catskill Mountains shall be kept as "forever wild."

G-10- Image of a couple camping in an Adirondack lean-to

L-10- Timeline Text 1897

✓ Congress enacts the Forest Management Act, which designates Forest Reserves as national resources for timber harvesting, grazing, and mining. The same year, Gifford Pinchot is appointed chief of the Division of Forestry in the Department of Agriculture, the precursor to the U.S. Forest Service. Over the next twenty years, Pinchot becomes one of the dominant figures in conservation, promoting scientific forestry and leading the utilitarian wing of the conservation movement.

L-10- Timeline Text

As secretary for New York City's Committee on Small Parks, Jacob Riis helps to generate momentum for public playgrounds and other small parks. "In the original plan for the City of New York," Riis observed, "the children seem to have been forgotten."

L-10- Timeline Text 1901

John Muir's *Our National Parks* eloquently describes some of the nation's most scenic wildlands. The book establishes Muir as the leading advocate for wilderness preservation in the United States.

L-10- Quotation

*Thousands of tired, nerve-shaken, over-civilized people are beginning to find out that going to the mountains is going home; that wildness is a necessity; and that mountain parks and reservations are useful not only as fountains of timber and irrigating rivers, but as fountains of life.*

L-10- Citation John Muir, *Our National Parks*

A-10- Book *Our National Parks*, early edition {display closed}

L-10- Timeline Text 1903

President Theodore Roosevelt establishes a federally protected wildlife refuge at Pelican Island, Florida. The first of fifty-three wildlife sanctuaries he creates as President, Pelican Island sets the precedent for today's National Wildlife Refuge System.

L-10- Timeline Text 1905

✓ The Bureau of Forestry in the Department of Agriculture becomes the U.S. Forest Service, and Gifford Pinchot becomes its first chief. Congress transfers responsibility for the nation's Forest Reserves from the Department of the Interior to the Forest Service.

G-10- Image of US Forest Service logo



L-10- Timeline Text 1906

Congress approves the American Antiquities Act, authorizing the President to establish national monuments to protect archaeological sites.

L-10- Timeline Text 1910

Just over half the population of the United States lives in rural areas.

L-10- Quotation

*Conservation and rural-life policies are really two sides of the same policy; and down at the bottom this policy rests upon the fundamental law that neither man nor nation can prosper unless, in dealing with the present, thought is steadily taken for the future.*

L-10- Citation Theodore Roosevelt, *The Outlook*

L-10- Timeline Text 1916

✓ The National Park Service is established, and Stephen T. Mather is appointed first Director. The new agency's mission is "to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."

G-10- Image of NPS arrowhead logo

L-10- Timeline Text

Private philanthropy—including substantial gifts from John D. Rockefeller, Jr., and a private citizens' group, the Hancock County Trustees of Public Reservations—plays a pivotal role in the establishment of Sieur de Monts National Monument in Maine. The Monument is later reclassified as Acadia National Park, the first national park east of the Mississippi River.

L-10- Timeline Text 1920

Congress passes the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, giving women the right to vote.

L-10- Timeline Text 1921

Pioneering regional planner Benton MacKaye proposes a trail and wilderness belt along the mountain ranges of the eastern United States. His vision later becomes the 2,000-mile-long Appalachian Trail.

L-10- Timeline Text 1923

Lewis Mumford and others form the Regional Planning Association of America (RPAA), in order to promote the ecological and cultural reconstruction of stagnating American urban and rural communities. Throughout the 1920s and 1930s, the regionalist movement also inspires artists, folklorists and writers to celebrate local community traditions and values. A common goal of all regionalists is a restored appreciation of the connections between regional ways of life and the natural landscapes that support them.

G-10- Image of Grant Wood's "Stone City" (1930)

L-10- Timeline Text 1927

Restoration of Colonial Williamsburg in Virginia begins with funds from John D. Rockefeller, Jr.

L-10- Timeline Text 1931

Charleston, South Carolina passes an ordinance to "preserve and protect historic places and areas in the Old and Historic Charleston district." This is the country's first historic district.

G-10- Image of Charleston in the 1930s

L-10- Timeline Text 1932

Drought and dust storms sweep the Great Plains, thereafter known as the "Dust Bowl".

G-10- Image of Dorothea Lange's "Migrant Family from Oklahoma", 1936

L-10-036 Timeline Text 1935

Historic Sites and Buildings Act directs the Secretary of the Interior to document, acquire, and preserve historic properties.

L-10- Timeline Text 1947

Marjorie Stoneman Douglas's landmark book, *The Everglades: River of Grass*, culminates a twenty-year effort to educate the public and political leaders about the importance of this unique ecosystem. The same year, Everglades National Park is established. Douglas continues her activism on behalf of the Everglades for the next fifty years.

L-10- Quotation

*There is a balance in man also, one which has set against his greed and his inertia and his foolishness; his courage, his will, his ability slowly and painfully to learn, and to work together...Perhaps even in this last hour, in a new relation of usefulness and beauty, the vast, magnificent, subtle and unique region of the Everglades may not be utterly lost.*

L-10- Citation Marjorie Stoneman Douglas, *The Everglades: River of Grass*

L-10-038 Timeline Text 1948

The International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources—now the World Conservation Union—is founded. The Union brings together governmental bodies and nongovernmental organizations from around the world to protect natural heritage through policy initiatives and on-the-ground actions.



✓ L-10-039 Timeline Text 1949

The National Trust for Historic Preservation is chartered by the U.S. Congress. The Trust, a private, nonprofit organization, works to protect historic buildings, neighborhoods and landscapes.

L-10-040 Timeline Text

Aldo Leopold's *A Sand County Almanac* is published. One of the most influential works about conservation ever written, the book eloquently argues the need for a "land ethic" through which humans embrace a more respectful, harmonious relationship with the natural world.

L-10- Quotation

*I have read many definitions of what is a conservationist, and written not a few myself, but I suspect that the best one is written not with a pen, but with an axe. It is a matter of what a man thinks about while chopping, or while deciding what to chop. A conservationist is one who is humbly aware that with each stroke he is writing his signature on the face of his land.*

L-10-041 Citation Aldo Leopold, *A Sand County Almanac*

{omit quote and citation if space allows having the book open to page 73 with this excerpt}

A-05- Book *A Sand County Almanac*

L-10-037 Timeline Text 1951

The Nature Conservancy is incorporated by its predecessor, The Ecologist's Union. By the 1990s the Conservancy will own and manage the largest network of private nature reserves in the world.

L-10-043 Timeline Text 1962

Rachael Carson's *Silent Spring* reveals the impact of pesticides and radioactive fallout from atomic bomb testing on humans and the environment. The book launches a new era of growth in environmental awareness and activism.

L-10- Quotation

*We stand now where two roads diverge. But unlike the roads in Robert Frost's familiar poem, they are not equally fair. The road we have long been traveling is deceptively easy, a smooth superhighway on which we progress at great speed, but at its end lies disaster. The other fork of the road—the one "less traveled by"—offers our last, our only chance to reach a destination that assures the preservation of our earth. The choice, after all, is ours to make.*

L-10- Citation Rachel Carson, *Silent Spring*

A-05- Book *Silent Spring* {Display closed}



L-10-046      Timeline Text 1963

L-10-      Quotation

*Men must grasp completely the relationship between human stewardship and the fullness of the American earth.*

L-10-047      Citation      Stewart Udall, *The Quiet Crisis*

L-10-      Timeline Text 1964

A period of landmark federal conservation legislation begins with passage of the *Wilderness Act*. The following year, Congress enacts the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, and in 1968 the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and the National Trails Act are approved.

L-10-048      Timeline Text 1965

L-10-      Quotation

*Our conservation must be not just the classic conservation of protection and development, but a creative conservation of restoration and innovation. Its concern is not with nature alone, but with the total relation between man and the world around him. Its object is not just man's welfare but the dignity of man's spirit.*

L-10-049      Citation      President Lyndon B. Johnson, Message on Natural Beauty

L-10-      Timeline Text

*The International Council on Monuments and Sites is established.* ICOMOS is a nongovernmental organization dedicated to the conservation of the world's historic sites, monuments and cultural landscapes.

L-10-050      Timeline Text 1966

✓ The Special Committee on Historic Preservation publishes *With Heritage So Rich*. Its broad vision for the future of historic preservation sets the stage for passage the same year of the *National Historic Preservation Act*. The Act expands the National Register of Historic Places, and authorizes *federal preservation grants to the states.*

G-05-      Image of historic preservation work or a preserved site

L-10-051      Timeline Text 1970

L-10-052      Quotation

*Now that you're here,  
the word of the Lorax seems perfectly clear.  
UNLESS someone like you  
cares a whole awful lot,  
nothing is going to get better.  
It's not.*

L-10-053      Citation      Theodore S. Geisel, a.k.a. Dr. Seuss, *The Lorax*

L-10- Timeline Text

Earth Day is celebrated for the first time by an estimated 20 million people across the United States.

G-05- Image of Earth from Space

L-10- Timeline Text

The National Environmental Policy Act establishes a federal responsibility to "preserve important historic, cultural, and natural aspects of our national heritage."

L-10- Timeline Text

The photographs of Ansel Adams exemplify the emerging power of photography to shape the perceptions of the postwar generation.

G-05- Image of "Moonlight in Yosemite", or another comparable image by Adams

L-10- Timeline Text 1972

The World Heritage Convention is adopted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). This treaty encourages the identification and protection of outstanding cultural and natural heritage around the world.

L-10-054 Timeline Text 1976

Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve, located on Whidbey Island, Washington, is established. It is the first protected working landscape affiliated with the National Park System.

G-05- Image of Ebey's Landing

L-10-055 Timeline Text 1977

The National Trust for Historic Preservation announces its first Main Street project to help towns revitalize their older commercial areas.

L-10- Timeline Text 1978

Lois Gibbs and other residents of Niagara Falls, New York form the Love Canal Homeowners' Association and fight against the toxic contamination of their neighborhood by the Hooker Chemical Corporation. Ultimately, their efforts secure not only a clean-up and compensation for residents of the area, but also help to spark grassroots environmental activism across the country and generate momentum for national legislation to deal with hazardous wastes.



## L-10- Timeline Text

In the first significant historic preservation case to reach the Supreme Court, the Court rules that New York City's preservation law is constitutional. This precludes the development of an office tower above Grand Central Terminal, and establishes an important legal precedent supporting historic preservation efforts.

## L-10- Timeline Text 1980

One-quarter of the population of the United States lives in rural areas; less than three percent lives on farms.

## L-10- Timeline Text 1981

## L-10- Quotation

*In losing stewardship we lose fellowship; we become outcasts from the great neighborhood of creation.*

L-10- Citation Wendell Berry, *The Gift of Good Land*

## L-10- Timeline Text 1986

## L-10- Quotation

*I think it is inappropriate to call land a "resource" because that term is tied so closely to economics. We can call gold or chrome or coal a resource, but land and people transcend a one-dimensional economic consideration.*

L-10- Citation Wes Jackson, *American Land Forum*

## L-10-057 Timeline Text 1987

*Our Common Future*, the report of the World Commission on Environment and Development, focuses on the global character of environmental issues and calls for achieving "sustainable development."

## L-10- Quotation

*To secure our common future, we need a new international vision based on cooperation and a new international ethic based on the realization that the issues with which we wrestle are globally interconnected. This is not only a moral ethic but also a practical one—the only way we can pursue our own self interests on a small and closely knit planet.*

L-10- Citation Gro Harlem Brundtland, Chair of the World Commission on Environment and Development

A-05- Book *Our Common Future* {Paperback; display closed}

G-05- Image of the bumper sticker "Think Globally, Act Locally"



L-10- Timeline Text 1988

L-10- Quotation

*The only way conservation can work is if it is seen as just part of the fabric of development—part of the fabric of growth of human society.*

L-10- Citation Peter Seligmann, Chair of Conservation International

L-10- Timeline Text 1990s

In a time of declining government resources, nongovernmental organizations play an increasingly important role in conservation worldwide. More than 1,200 land trusts are active in the United States alone by the late 1990s, an increase of 63 percent from a decade earlier. Together the trusts have protected nearly 5 million acres.

L-10- Timeline Text 1992

In the largest diplomatic gathering in history, representatives from more than 170 countries attend the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development—better known as the **Earth Summit**—in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The meeting produces several important international agreements dealing with global environmental issues.

L-10- Timeline Text 1993

A group of **ranchers** from a million-acre **region in southern Arizona and New Mexico** form the **Malpai Borderlands Group**, a nonprofit organization dedicated to achieving more **sustainable ranching techniques** and **protecting the area's unfragmented landscape**. Working with scientists, government officials, and the Nature Conservancy, the group implements new range management practices that improve grazing and enhance the region's biodiversity. The project is an example of the growing emphasis on **"community-based conservation" in the United States.**

L-10- Timeline Text 1997

L-10- Quotation

*Pueblo people believe that the primary and most important relationship for humans is with the land, the natural environment, and the cosmos, which in the pueblo world are synonymous. Humans exist within the cosmos and are an integral part of the functioning of the earth community.*

L-10- Citation Rina Swentzell, Santa Clara Pueblo, New Mexico

L-10- Quotation

*We need to discover a common middle ground in which all these things, from the city to the wilderness, can somehow be encompassed in the word 'home.' Home, after all, is the place where we make our living. It is the place for which we take responsibility, the place we try to sustain so we can pass on what is best in it (and in ourselves) to our children.*

L-10- Citation William Cronon, *Uncommon Ground*

